

ORIGINAL

INEEL PUBLIC MEETING
ON PROPOSED CLEANUP PLAN FOR
WASTE AREA GROUP 5
(POWER BURST FACILITY/AUXILIARY REACTOR AREA)

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1999

AT 7:00 P.M.

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Reported By:
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<p>1 help of a citizens focus group. And the PBF and</p> <p>2 ARA proposed plan was developed with the help of</p> <p>3 the Citizens Advisory Board ER Subcommittee,</p> <p>4 which reviewed and commented on this document.</p> <p>5 So, really, there's been a lot that's gone into</p> <p>6 this document, involving a lot of people's time</p> <p>7 and efforts.</p> <p>8 At this time, I would like to review the</p> <p>9 agenda with everyone. With a small group, I</p> <p>10 think we're probably not going to be quite as</p> <p>11 formal as we are in -- or were in our past</p> <p>12 meetings.</p> <p>13 But, at first, we'll have the</p> <p>14 presentation. And then we'll have --</p> <p>15 following the presentation, we'll have a</p> <p>16 questions-and-answers session, where you can ask</p> <p>17 questions of the project managers.</p> <p>18 I should mention that, if you have some</p> <p>19 questions during the course of the presentation,</p> <p>20 feel free to ask them. And then we will have the</p> <p>21 Q-and-A session following the presentation.</p> <p>22 Following the questions-and-answers</p> <p>23 session, we'll have a public comment period,</p> <p>24 where your comments are entered into the record.</p> <p>25 And we have a court reporter here tonight who is</p>	<p>1 recording all portions of this meeting.</p> <p>2 Also, in the back of the proposed</p> <p>3 plan -- whoops -- in the back of the proposed</p> <p>4 plan, we have a comment form, a postage-paid</p> <p>5 comment form, that you can write your comments</p> <p>6 down on and send them directly to DOE.</p> <p>7 Also, we have a comment form at the back</p> <p>8 of the room, which is also postage-paid. And,</p> <p>9 for the first time, you can submit your comments</p> <p>10 electronically over the Internet.</p> <p>11 And, oh, I should also mention, on the</p> <p>12 back of the agenda, there's a comment form, an</p> <p>13 evaluation form, regarding this meeting. So,</p> <p>14 please take the time to make a few comments, and</p> <p>15 we'll use your suggests to shape our future</p> <p>16 public meetings.</p> <p>17 At this time, I'd like to introduce the</p> <p>18 presenters. Over here, with the State of Idaho,</p> <p>19 Division of Environmental Quality, is Scott</p> <p>20 Reno. Scott will give an overview of the Power</p> <p>21 Burst Facility and Auxiliary Reactor Area, and</p> <p>22 he'll discuss the contaminate sources.</p> <p>23 Keith Rose. Keith is the project</p> <p>24 manager with the Environmental Protection Agency,</p> <p>25 Region 10, in Seattle. And Keith will talk about</p>

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<p>1 the risk assessment process and also the remedial 2 action objectives.</p> <p>3 And then we have Kevin O'Neill. Kevin 4 is the project manager for the Department of 5 Energy. And Kevin will talk about the proposed 6 alternatives. And then, also, we'll just provide 7 a summary at the end.</p> <p>8 So, with that, I'm going to pass the 9 mike over to Scott.</p> <p>10 MR. RENO: Thank you, Erik. Can you 11 hear me okay? Did you turn it off? Okay. How 12 about now?</p> <p>13 I'd like to thank you for coming 14 tonight, taking the time out of your busy 15 schedules and coming to tell us about what you 16 think of our plan. That's why we're here. This 17 is just to help bring people up to speed a little 18 bit. So, I'll give you a little introduction to 19 the facility.</p> <p>20 Waste Area Group 5 is located in the 21 south central portion of the INEEL. It consists 22 of two main operational areas. To the north part 23 of the PBF/ARA area were five reactors that 24 operated there beginning in the '50s and 25 operating into the '80s.</p>	<p>1 They go around spokes of a wagon wheel, 2 around a central control area. There was a power 3 burst reactor that is still there. It's in 4 standby mode today. And it's on the former 5 location of the SPERT-I reactor.</p> <p>6 And then going around the wagon wheel, 7 there was a SPERT-II reactor, the SPERT-III 8 reactor and the SPERT-IV reactor. At the 9 locations of the former SPERT-III reactor is now 10 the Waste Experimental Reduction Facility. And 11 at the location of the former SPERT-IV reactor is 12 the Mixed Waste Storage Facility.</p> <p>13 If we move on over to the Auxiliary 14 Reactor Area, there were four main operational 15 areas there. ARA-I housed support facilities for 16 the SL-1 reactor. At ARA-II, it also housed 17 facilities that supported operations at SL-1.</p> <p>18 And, at ARA-III, Area 3, it housed the 19 Army's Gas-Cooled Reactor Experiment. And, also, 20 for a period of time, the Mobile Low-Power 21 Reactor was in operation there. And this was a 22 reactor that was on tracks, like a tank, and they 23 were looking at possibly some remote applications 24 of having a power source.</p> <p>25 The last facility there is ARA-IV. The</p>

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<p>1 nuclear effects reactor operated there in the 2 late '50s and early '60s. And that area is now 3 utilized for explosives testing.</p> <p>4 All the reactors and facilities at the 5 ARA area have been dismantled and tore down, and 6 there's no active reactors there today.</p> <p>7 Several activities have occurred here at 8 Waste Area Group 5 already. We did do a cleanup 9 at the Power Burst Facility's evaporation pond, 10 and we removed hot spots that contained 11 cesium-137 and chromium. And we also cleaned up 12 the contents of the sump that fed that pond.</p> <p>13 We put a permanent cover on the former 14 trenches and the pit where the debris is from the 15 SL-1 incident. We removed waste. We did a 16 removal action at the ARA-II seepage pit and 17 containerized some -- some liquids and sludges 18 that were present there. And the disposition of 19 that drum material is part of this action.</p> <p>20 And then we have seven remaining sites 21 that we are proposing to take an action at under 22 this proposed plan. We investigated a total of 23 55 sites at Waste Area Group 5, 48 of which were 24 determined to require either no action or no 25 further action. We have seven remaining sites.</p>	<p>1 The first of these is the ARA-I chemical 2 evaporation pond. It received wastewaters from 3 the hot cells and a small laboratory that were 4 present at the ARA-I facility. We expect in the 5 neighborhood of 2,400 cubic yards of contaminated 6 soils. We'll need action at that site.</p> <p>7 The ARA-12 radioactive leach pond 8 contains on the order of 90 cubic yards of 9 contaminated material, primarily contaminated 10 with silver-108 metastable, the radionuclide, and 11 also cesium-137.</p> <p>12 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: What was the 13 soil total?</p> <p>14 MR. RENO: I'm sorry, Beatrice?</p> <p>15 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: I'm sorry. 16 Did you say the soil total? I'm sorry. Did you 17 say how much was there?</p> <p>18 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Ninety.</p> <p>19 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Nineteen?</p> <p>20 MR. RENO: Yeah. Ninety. On the order 21 of 90.</p> <p>22 And this contamination is a result of 23 the discharges of secondary cooling water from 24 the Gas-Cooled Reactor Experiment and possibly 25 from the Mobile Low-Power Reactor, too. This is</p>

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1 a shallow unlined pond. It's a natural
2 depression that's present there.
3 Site ARA-25 consists of -- on the order
4 of 70 cubic yards of contaminated soils that were
5 encountered during the decommissioning and
6 dismantlement of the ARA-I facility. They ran
7 into some hot soils in the vicinity on some floor
8 drains on the floor slabs, and it's contaminated
9 with radionuclides.

10 The ARA-23 is the most significant
11 source of contamination in this area. It's a
12 58-acre area. It's primarily contaminated with
13 windblown deposition from the cleanup of the SL-1
14 incident.

15 If you're not familiar with the SL-1
16 incident, it was a power excursion that had
17 happened in the Stationary Low-Power Reactor in
18 January of 1961. It heated the cooling water
19 around the reactor vessel and resulted in a steam
20 explosion. And it did result in the deaths of
21 the three operators that were at the facility
22 that day.

23 As I've said before, we've already taken
24 an action to deal with where they buried the
25 debris from the facility, but we still have this

1 depositional area which is primarily contaminated
2 with cesium-137, and primarily in the upper four
3 inches of the soils.

4 We're proposing to try to remediate
5 approximately 46,500 cubic yards of soils at
6 SL-1. And that comprises the majority of the
7 50,000 yards, or so, of soils we're going to try
8 to clean up with this action.

9 The SPERT-II leach pond, PBF-16,
10 received backwash from the water softeners and
11 treatment systems at the SPERT-II reactor. There
12 is a little bit of mercury that we found near the
13 outfall to this shallow unlined pond. And we're
14 anticipating on the order of 500 cubic yards of
15 soil that would be remediated at PBF-16.

16 Now, for our two -- two tank sites. The
17 first one is the ARA-02 sanitary septic system.
18 It should not have had waste in it. We're not
19 entirely sure how it got there, but it is there.
20 As I said before, we've already removed the
21 sludge from the septic tanks itself, the sludge
22 and liquid, and it's containerized in 55 drums.

23 There were three septic tanks in series,
24 and then they discharged to a seepage pit, which
25 was 12 feet deep. At the bottom of the seepage

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1 pit is approximately two yards of a dry sludge
2 we're proposing to remediate, and then to dispose
3 of the piping and the pit and the tanks
4 themselves.

5 The last site is the ARA-16 mixed
6 low-level waste tank. This is a 1,000-gallon
7 stainless steel tank. It received discharges
8 from the ARA-I hot shops and the metal-etching
9 process that was there.

10 It contains on the order of 30 gallons
11 of mixed low-level sludge that we'll need to
12 dispose of. In addition, we'll be proposing to
13 dispose of the tank vault and the contaminated
14 soils within the tank vault.

15 Now, we have lowered a camera down
16 inside the tank. It's in very good shape. You
17 can still see the grease pencil writings on the
18 side of the tank. We don't think the tank has
19 leaked, and there's no evidence of that.

20 There is contamination in the soils in
21 the tank vault. But that contamination is
22 consistent with the contaminations prevalent in
23 this area from the SL-1 incident.

24 The constituents that are in this tank,
25 which include solvents, radionuclides and PCB,

1 only the cesium is what we're finding at any
2 level of concern in those soils.

3 So, if, for some reason, we do find that
4 there has been a leak there, then we would
5 incorporate that into the action that we're
6 talking about.

7 Okay. With that, I'm going to turn this
8 over to Keith Rose of the EPA to discuss our risk
9 assessment process.

10 MR. ROSE: As Scott said, I'm here to
11 talk about the risk assessment that was conducted
12 for the WAG 5 facility. He also mentioned the
13 remedial action objectives and the evaluation
14 criteria for the alternatives we did evaluate.

15 The risk assessment is composed of three
16 major components. The first is to identify
17 contaminants which could cause an adverse effect
18 to human health or the environment. These are
19 commonly called contaminants of concern.

20 The second part is to identify pathways,
21 exposure pathways, which -- by which humans --
22 human and ecological receptors could be exposed
23 to contaminants of concern.

24 The third element is to identify the
25 receptors, human and ecological receptors, which

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1 could be exposed to contaminants at levels of
2 concern.

3 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: So, when
4 something is named a contaminant of concern, does
5 that mean it's present or it's present at a
6 certain concentration?

7 MR. ROSE: It's present at a
8 concentration which could potentially pose an
9 adverse risk.

10 Okay. The human health assessment
11 included two risk scenarios. The first one is
12 called an occupational scenario. It deals with
13 workers at the facility.

14 This scenario is based on an exposure
15 duration of eight hours a day, 250 days a year
16 for 25 years. It includes current workers and
17 workers that would be exposed 100 years from
18 now -- beginning 100 years from now.

19 The primary pathways of concern for this
20 scenario are the external exposure and dermal
21 absorption pathways. Institutional controls,
22 including fences and barriers and monitoring of
23 workers, are currently assumed to protect current
24 workers at the facility.

25 The second scenario we looked at is the

1 residential, the future residential scenario,
2 which would begin 100 years in the future.

3 It's assumed that the government will be
4 in control of all facilities at INEEL for 100
5 years. And beyond that 100-year period, there
6 could potentially be residents living out there.

7 This exposure pathway is based on 24
8 hours a day, 350 days a year for 30 years, would
9 begin 100 years in the future. And the primary
10 pathways of concern are external exposure and
11 dermal absorption.

12 Now, the current -- the risk for
13 cancer-causing substances, or carcinogens, is --
14 the acceptable range for carcinogens is typically
15 in the range of one in ten thousand to one in one
16 million. So, our cleanup decisions are usually
17 based in that range, as shown in this figure over
18 here, between one in ten thousand and one in a
19 million.

20 For contaminants which could cause a
21 noncarcinogenic risk, we have a different method
22 for determining what's the acceptable risk
23 level. That is called a hazard indices or hazard
24 index.

25 And it's calculated by -- it's a ratio

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1 of the exposed dose -- the exposure -- or the
2 dose of exposure to a reference value. And when
3 that number is above 1.0, that's -- that could
4 mean that it would be a potential site for
5 cleanup. And that's our threshold for
6 determining a potential cleanup action.

7 Again, the second major component of our
8 risk assessment was the ecological risk
9 assessment. This assessment examined possible
10 impacts to plants, animals, birds, reptiles and
11 insects. It evaluated individual species of
12 concern and groups of species. Contaminant
13 screening was based on site-specific data and
14 data from the literature.

15 And it was assumed that the ecological
16 receptors would be exposed to these contaminants
17 for 100 percent of the time, which is very
18 conservative.

19 We all know that the -- the
20 environmental receptors, the critters out there,
21 are moving around. They don't get exposed to
22 contaminants in one place for all of their
23 lifetime. But we took the conservative estimate
24 that they would be exposed 100 percent of their
25 lifetime.

1 The two primary pathways by which the
2 ecological receptors could be exposed to
3 contaminants were through a direct dose from
4 contaminated soil and by ingestion of
5 contaminated plants and prey.

6 It was found that the highest ecological
7 risks were for two categories of animals. One
8 was insect-eating mammals, such as Merriam's
9 shrew and the northern grasshopper mouse, and for
10 insect-eating birds, such as the ruby-crowned
11 kinglet and the western bluebird.

12 For ecological risks, we used a
13 parameter called the "hazard quotient" to
14 determine the extent, or the degree, of adverse
15 effect to environmental receptors.

16 And this was a ratio of the potential
17 dose to a reference value. This reference value
18 was something like a no-adverse-effect level, or
19 something like that, which is based on no adverse
20 effects.

21 This table shows the contaminants of
22 concern for human health and ecological
23 receptors. Scott touched on this earlier. This
24 breaks it down into the seven sites of concern,
25 which he mentioned, the seven areas of concern.

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1 These are the contaminants of concern
 2 for human health. You see that they include
 3 cesium-137, silver-108 metastable, radium-226,
 4 arsenic, uranium-235 and uranium-238.
 5 Among all those -- among all the
 6 radionuclides, the cesium-137 is the most common
 7 and drives the risk at most of these sites.
 8 For the ecological receptors, we had
 9 five metals of concern, including selenium,
 10 thallium, mercury, copper and lead.
 11 This table here is a -- shows the result
 12 of the risk assessment. It's identical to Table
 13 1 in the proposed plan. Once again, it shows the
 14 seven areas of concern here on the left. And in
 15 these columns are the risks due to a current
 16 occupational scenario. This is the future
 17 occupational scenario; and these -- this is the
 18 future residential scenario; and, finally, the
 19 ecological risks.
 20 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Is the
 21 ecological risks current?
 22 MR. ROSE: Current, yes. That's current
 23 ecological risks.
 24 The scenario -- the human health risk
 25 scenario, which we used as a basis for

1 determining cleanup actions, was the future
 2 residential scenario.
 3 And you can see here that in five of the
 4 seven sites we had risks exceeding the acceptable
 5 risk range of one in ten thousand. We had risk
 6 at or above one in ten thousand at five of those
 7 sites.
 8 And at four of the seven sites -- these
 9 four here -- we had ecological risk which had a
 10 hazard quotient greater than ten.
 11 The remedial action objectives are
 12 really the basis now for determining cleanup
 13 goals at each site. We had four sets of remedial
 14 action objectives.
 15 The first was to inhibit direct exposure
 16 to contaminants that would cause -- or would
 17 result in an excess cancer risk of one in ten
 18 thousand to workers or future residents.
 19 The second objective was to inhibit
 20 dermal absorption of any contaminant of concern
 21 that would result in a hazard index of two or
 22 greater for workers or future residents.
 23 Third was to prevent the release of the
 24 waste in the ARA-16 radionuclide tank, which
 25 Scott mentioned, to prevent the release of that

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1 waste to the environment where humans or
 2 ecological receptors could be exposed.
 3 And, finally, the last objective was to
 4 inhibit ecological receptor exposure to
 5 contaminated soils with concentrations either
 6 greater than ten times the background -- or,
 7 actually, greater than ten times the background
 8 and with a hazard quotient greater than ten.
 9 This overhead shows the evaluation
 10 criteria that are used for super fund cleanups.
 11 It consists of nine criterias -- nine criteria
 12 broken under three sets.
 13 The first set are called threshold
 14 criteria, because any alternative that we look at
 15 has to satisfy these two criteria. They include
 16 protection of human health and the environment
 17 and compliance with all applicable environmental
 18 laws and regulations.
 19 The second set of criteria are called
 20 balancing criteria. They're used to rank those
 21 alternatives which pass the threshold criteria.
 22 They consist of long-term effectiveness of the
 23 remedy, a reduction of toxicity, mobility or
 24 volume through treatment.
 25 Short-term effectiveness addresses how

1 effective will the remedy be during the time it's
 2 implemented, how protective will it be to human
 3 health and the environment, particularly the
 4 workers that are doing the work.
 5 The fourth in that category is ease of
 6 implementation. And the final one is the cost.
 7 And the cost here includes not only the capital
 8 cost of doing the construction of the remedy but
 9 the long-term O&M cost, if there are any.
 10 Finally, there's -- the last set are
 11 called modifying criteria. They consist of state
 12 and public acceptance of the preferred
 13 alternative and the investigation in the
 14 feasibility stage that was done to support the
 15 proposed plan.
 16 At this point, I would like to introduce
 17 Kevin O'Neill, who's going to be talking about
 18 the remediation action alternatives that we've
 19 evaluated for WAG 5.
 20 MR. O'NEILL: Thank you, Keith.
 21 As Keith pointed out, all the
 22 alternatives that we evaluate must pass the
 23 threshold criteria before we look into them
 24 in-depth.
 25 And of the contaminated sites, these are

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1 the original alternatives we evaluated. Not all
2 of them passed the threshold criteria. One, for
3 instance, the no-action alternative, doesn't do
4 anything to improve the site and is not
5 considered protective. However, we evaluate that
6 as a base line to compare the others to.

7 The limited action alternative would
8 include institutional controls and things that
9 are in place now to protect the worker and the
10 public from encountering these wastes or being
11 exposed to them. That is also not deemed to be
12 protective once those institutional controls are
13 removed, so we don't evaluate that any further.

14 The next one, excavation, consolidation
15 and containment with a native soil cover within
16 Waste Area Group 5 -- that's another one that we
17 didn't believe met the threshold criteria,
18 because we could not assure that a native soil
19 cap would not erode following the 100-year period
20 of institutional control that we've adopted as
21 our standard. And, because the contaminants are
22 long-lived that would remain underneath that
23 cover, it was not deemed protective.

24 The next one, excavation, consolidation
25 and containment with an engineered barrier was

1 further considered. That's a barrier much like
2 the SL-1 cap that was discussed in an earlier
3 action. That barrier would preclude intrusion by
4 animals or humans.

5 The next four alternatives are all very
6 similar in that the gist of them is to remove the
7 contaminated soil and dispose of it at an
8 appropriate disposal facility that's licensed or
9 built to the requirements necessary to protect
10 the public.

11 We, in our proposed plan, combined those
12 into Alternatives 4 and 5, five being where we
13 implement, also, a technology that we're
14 investigating called soil sorting. The hope
15 of -- the technology is called the Segmented Gate
16 System.

17 And the hope of implementing that
18 technology is that we can reduce the volume of
19 contaminated -- radiologically contaminated soil
20 that requires disposal and hopefully, hence,
21 reduce the cost of the project overall.

22 And the variation then is whether or not
23 we dispose of on site. And it is our preference
24 that we would dispose on site should suitable
25 capacity be available.

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1 While I'm on the subject, I want to talk
2 about this a little bit. We were planning to do
3 this treatability study this next month. We were
4 going to process 1,000 cubic yards of, primarily,
5 cesium-contaminated soil through a Segmented Gate
6 System, which is basically a conveyor belt that
7 exposes the soil to a series of detectors,
8 they're relayed to a series of gates, and it
9 identifies contaminant soil that's contaminated
10 above a set point and diverts the dirty soil to
11 one pile and the clean soil to another.

12 Our hope is that we will get in excess
13 of 90 percent volume reduction. And, if we do
14 that, it will be competitive with direct
15 disposal.

16 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Say that last
17 thing again. It will be --

18 MR. O'NEILL: Right now -- and I'll put
19 up the next slide, because that's pertinent to
20 your question.

21 If you look at the costs here for -- the
22 blinking light. Direct disposal, this line here,
23 is varying degrees of separation achieved during
24 the Segmented Gate Study.

25 We evaluated it as a range of soil

1 reduction -- I'm sorry -- volume reduction
2 percentages. Zero percent means we didn't run it
3 through, that we just dug the stuff up and hauled
4 it off to a suitable repository. And, as you can
5 see right there, it shows to be the lowest cost
6 of those alternatives.

7 When we developed this at 50 percent, we
8 didn't have -- we don't have on-site experience
9 with how this technology will work with our soil
10 and with our contamination. So, we used a
11 conservative number and a conservative rate cost
12 of processing. And it shows it to be
13 significantly more expensive than direct haul.

14 Using a less, I guess, disciplined cost
15 estimate, we evaluated what the cost would be at
16 90 percent reduction. We do have hopes that the
17 cost of processing would go down with the large
18 volume we have. We also have hopes that our
19 percent separation will be higher, and that, in
20 the end, it could actually be less expensive than
21 direct disposal. And the treatability study is
22 the way to find out that information.

23 In our comparing the various
24 alternatives, no alternative, consolidation,
25 on-site, or removal and disposal, our preferred

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1 alternative is to sort and dispose of that soil
2 on-site.

3 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: What is the
4 most expensive fraction of volume reduction to
5 50 percent?

6 MR. O'NEILL: Well, zero means we didn't
7 even process it.

8 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Right.

9 MR. O'NEILL: Okay. So, there's no cost
10 of processing. Fifty percent means we got some
11 reduction, but we have the cost in processing all
12 of that soil, but not enough reduction to reduce
13 the transportation and disposal costs to make it
14 less than direct disposal.

15 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: And then
16 more soil would be hauled in?

17 MR. O'NEILL: Well, that could be, as
18 well. If we remove a large volume, we would have
19 to refill. Although, we believe that the depth
20 that we're going to remove probably won't affect
21 the terrain there. We're looking at maybe six
22 inches of soil for most of it.

23 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: And then the
24 soil dump is a one-time cost?

25 MR. O'NEILL: Cost. Right. So,

1 long-term -- and that's a good point that I

2 skipped over. As you see down here, operation
3 and maintenance, there are numbers here for the
4 first two alternatives but none here.

5 And that's because the cost of that
6 operation and maintenance, and the monitoring, is
7 captured in the disposal fee. And the
8 responsibility is carried forward by the -- by
9 the stewards of that facility.

10 This flow chart -- decision chart, if
11 you will -- is found in the proposed plan. It
12 basically outlines -- lays out how we're going to
13 make our decision.

14 At the front end, any soil that's
15 contaminated above an acceptable level will have
16 to be removed. And if sorting is cost-effective,
17 we will sort.

18 Our preferred alternative is to dispose
19 of it at a new engineered facility on site. It
20 would have to be sited or built, but -- which is
21 in the works. If that is available and
22 affordable, we would go there. If sorting
23 reduces that cost, we would do that.

24 If that site's not available but another
25 on-site location is available, such as RWMC, and

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1 our soil sorting gets our volume down to a small
2 amount that they can handle, we would likely go
3 there.

4 And our last choice would be to take
5 this soil off site. And that becomes an
6 expensive proposition, hauling radiologically
7 contaminated soil across the roads. There's just
8 costs involved with the packaging and
9 transportation that makes this -- and also the
10 increased disposal costs that makes that our last
11 choice.

12 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Is the 50,000
13 cubic yards that Scott referred to -- that is
14 without any soil reduction, without any volume
15 reduction?

16 MR. O'NEILL: Exactly. Exactly. And
17 some of that -- some of the soil, a lot of the
18 smaller sites, are contaminated with things other
19 than radionuclides, and other radionuclides than
20 cesium-137, which seems to work well in this
21 technology, particularly if it's particulate.

22 If it's been something that's been
23 leached to the ground through a liquid process,
24 it may not be as effective, though we're going to
25 try to demonstrate a few different types of soils

1 to find out where it is effective.

2 Those soils that cannot be run on it
3 would just be disposed of directly. They are
4 smaller volumes.

5 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: And they're
6 the ones -- they would also be the ones that have
7 hazardous chemicals?

8 MR. O'NEILL: As well.

9 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Because if
10 this would not --

11 MR. O'NEILL: Right, right. This does
12 not -- this does not do anything for hazardous
13 chemicals or heavy metals. Strictly
14 radiological. But that's our largest volume.
15 And if we reduce that by 90 percent, the whole
16 show gets smaller and more manageable.

17 The next activity, the next action, I
18 want to discuss is the sanitary waste system.
19 Again, this was a series of septic tanks that fed
20 a seepage pit.

21 The waste has been removed from the
22 tanks. We now have some residual dry sludge in
23 the bottom of the seepage pit. We propose to
24 remove that, treat it at WERF -- it's incinerable
25 material -- remove the seepage pit itself, which

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1 is concrete block, dispose of that off-site,
2 because it's likely mixed contaminated waste; and
3 DECON the piping in the tankage and dispose of
4 them on-site.

5 The other alternatives considered were
6 removing that waste and chemically stabilizing
7 it. That would require some -- some effort, some
8 work, do some treatability studies. And the
9 thermal treatment is quick and available and less
10 expensive.

11 And another one was in situ
12 stabilization and encapsulation. That would mean
13 putting some soil or grout in the seepage pit and
14 in the piping and leaving the -- and the tanks
15 and leaving the material in place.

16 And this is how they ranked up. Again,
17 our preferred alternative, it's the lowest cost.
18 It's highly implementable. And it's got good
19 long-term effectiveness. And we do reduce volume
20 through treatment.

21 The last one is our radionuclide tank
22 site. Again, this is not a release to the
23 environment at this time. There is contaminated
24 soil around the tank and in the vault. The
25 vault's opened. It's not a covered vault. It

1 just has soil piled in it that covers the tank.

2 There is RAD contamination there.

3 However, we have not seen the signature of the
4 contaminants that are in the tank in the adjacent
5 soil. So, we believe that the integrity of the
6 tank is good. We just need to get it out of
7 there because it's -- it would be a nonacceptable
8 risk if it -- if it did leach.

9 So, we looked at in situ vitrification.

10 That's bringing in a technology that would melt
11 all the soil and the tank and everything. It
12 would turn it to glass.

13 We looked at doing that right there at
14 the site. We looked at doing that up at TAN,
15 where they're planning to conduct a similar
16 activity. We looked at taking the waste itself
17 up to TAN and treating it in their tanks.

18 Our preferred alternative is that we
19 would remove that waste -- remove the tank,
20 remove the waste, send the waste to the Advanced
21 Mixed Waste Treatment Facility, let them treat it
22 thermally. We could DECON the tank and piping
23 and dispose of that suitably.

24 That variation, the next variation, just
25 has off-site disposal versus on-site.

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1 The stabilization technologies would
2 require some extensive testing and would require
3 a lot of money to develop. Hence, they weren't
4 evaluated further in the proposed plan. Or in
5 the FS, I should say.

6 In situ vitrification at WAG 5 proved to
7 be somewhat costly, just mobilizing the equipment
8 and the skill there to do that work. Also, keep
9 in mind that it's really a relatively small
10 site. And in situ vitrification might not appear
11 appropriate for such a small site where we could
12 actually just remove the contamination instead of
13 leaving it in place.

14 You see that the cost of removing the
15 tank and taking it to TAN is lower than our
16 preferred alternative. However, there are --
17 there are other difficulties involved with taking
18 it up there.

19 While we believe that in situ
20 vitrification would either thoroughly destroy the
21 contaminants or immobilize them, it hasn't been
22 proven on tanks, it hasn't been proven with PCBs,
23 and, hence, compliance with the Land Disposal
24 Restrictions would have to be demonstrated.

25 And we certainly -- well, it would be a

1 costly and difficult venture -- let's put it that
2 way -- where as we have an available technology
3 coming on-line. The Advanced Mixed Waste
4 Treatment Facility will be available about the
5 same time we're doing this cleanup, and it would
6 provide us the protection and remove the
7 contamination from the environment. Or potential
8 contamination. Because, as I said, that tank has
9 not leaked.

10 So, in summary, we've looked at -- at
11 WAG 5, we've looked at 55 release sites. Many of
12 them were shown not to be of significant
13 concern. They didn't have a risk -- a
14 nonacceptable risk.

15 Seven of the sites do, though. And
16 tonight we've talked about what are some of the
17 things we've determined would be a good way to
18 treat them.

19 Our preferred -- if we take the cost of
20 our preferred alternatives, the sum of them could
21 cost a combined \$26 million. I need to point out
22 that's at the 50 percent volume reduction level.
23 If we didn't even treat it through -- or process
24 it, it would be cheaper than that. And if we get
25 90 percent, we could save an easy \$5 million off

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1 of that on our -- on our total cost.
 2 Opportunities for public involvement.
 3 Today, here, you're here to hear what we have to
 4 say, make a personal assessment, provide us your
 5 input and tell us what you think would be a good
 6 answer, what you think of what we've done, the
 7 assumptions we've made.

8 This fall we hope to sign a Record of
 9 Decision. Following that would be a remedial
 10 design, culminating in a remedial action,
 11 hopefully, in the year 2001 and completing the
 12 cleanup at WAG 5 by year 2003.

13 I'm going to turn this back over to
 14 Erik, I think. Thank you.

15 MR. SIMPSON: Are there any more
 16 questions? Yes.

17 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: This gentleman was
 18 speaking of the removal at TAN. Who is "TAN"?
 19 What --

20 MR. O'NEILL: Oh, I'm sorry.

21 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: That's perfectly
 22 all right.

23 MR. O'NEILL: That use of acronyms by a
 24 bureaucrat. TAN is the Test Area North, also
 25 known in the ER world at WAG 1. That's at the

1 very northern end of the INEEL. And they have a
 2 series of tanks that they're planning to treat,
 3 or at least looking at treating, using in situ
 4 vitrification.

5 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: And you have 55
 6 potential release sites identified?

7 MR. O'NEILL: Right. Those are
 8 identified through interviews with individuals
 9 who had worked at the site and known areas where
 10 we had released materials to the environment. We
 11 went out to find areas. Some areas would be a
 12 fuel tank or a septic tank or a leach field or a
 13 pond.

14 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: Thank you.

15 MR. SIMPSON: Any other questions?
 16 Beatrice, any more?

17 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: I have a lot.

18 MR. SIMPSON: Okay. Fire away.

19 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Okay. I asked
 20 one person. But has Fish and Wildlife ever done
 21 a sort of wildlife assessment out there?

22 MR. SIMPSON: Do you want to tackle that
 23 one, Scott?

24 MR. RENO: I'm sorry, Beatrice, I don't
 25 think I know the answer to that. I don't know if

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1 anybody else does.

2 MR. FRANK WEBBER: I'm not sure that
 3 Fish and Wildlife has. But RESL has done a lot
 4 of work with the receptors out there and the
 5 wildlife. And, currently, in Waste Area
 6 Group 10, WAG 10 is studying ecological hazards,
 7 for the most part, which includes wildlife,
 8 fauna, flora, you know, vegetation, etc.

9 They're kind of the wrap-up WAG that
 10 will take care of a good portion of those -- you
 11 know, those leftover contaminants or effects on
 12 ecological receptors. Although, we have
 13 evaluated ecological receptors around WAG 5.
 14 Those sites that we feel pose a significant
 15 hazard will be cleaned up in this action. The
 16 remainder are being handed off to WAG 10 for
 17 further study.

18 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: This SPERT-II
 19 leach pond, why are you still discharging water
 20 to it? I mean, in the whole sort of water pushes
 21 contamination down.

22 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: There's nothing going
 23 out there of any significance at all. Mercury
 24 doesn't move. And mercury's our only contaminant
 25 concern. And it's a very restricted area.

1 MR. SIMPSON: Okay. Jean, do you want
 2 to repeat that? I'm sorry.

3 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: Mercury is not very
 4 mobile. It doesn't move very far. And it's
 5 limited to a very small area. And we don't feel
 6 that the water that's out there is moving it.

7 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Is the water
 8 on top of it?

9 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: No.

10 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Do
 11 animals have access to this mercury?

12 MR. SIMPSON: The question was: Do
 13 animals have access to the mercury?

14 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: And the answer is:
 15 That's why we are cleaning the site. It's an
 16 ecological risk.

17 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: So, if we
 18 were to shoot an antelope that was somewhere out
 19 there, we have the possibility of taking in that
 20 mercury into our systems?

21 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Only if
 22 you ate it.

23 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Well,
 24 that's for shooting. If you were going hunting,
 25 that would be the object.

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1 MR. FRANK WEBBER: It should be pointed
 2 out that on the SPERT-II pond -- in fact, on
 3 page 13 of the proposed plan, it shows our
 4 preliminary remediation goals as 0.5 milligrams
 5 per kilogram, and the maximum detected
 6 concentration of mercury is 0.71 milligrams per
 7 kilogram. So, you know, it's really marginally
 8 contaminated. There's not much there.
 9 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: It
 10 depends on how much you eat; right?
 11 MR. O'NEILL: Sure.
 12 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: It depends on how
 13 your immune system has been so screwed up by
 14 everything, not just one little contaminated
 15 particle matter.
 16 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: Again, remember that
 17 the ecological risk assessment that we did for
 18 that site assumes that an animal is there eating
 19 that for its entire life --
 20 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: And assuming that
 21 you're lucky enough to shoot one in ten years.
 22 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: That's correct.
 23 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: -- or draw a tag.
 24 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: What does
 25 it do to the aquifer that's underneath it?

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1 MR. SIMPSON: The question was: What
 2 does it do to the aquifer underneath it?
 3 MR. RENO: We've done sampling of a
 4 number of aquifer wells that are present beneath
 5 the PBF/ARA area. In addition, we've done
 6 computer modeling, fate and transport modeling,
 7 to determine what impacts there may be from the
 8 surface releases that are present there.
 9 With both our analytical data from the
 10 wells that are there and the modeling that was
 11 done, we haven't determined that there is an
 12 unacceptable aquifer risk at this particular
 13 facility. And we're not projecting that there
 14 will be one in the future. Although, we will
 15 continue to monitor to ensure that our
 16 predictions are accurate.
 17 MR. SIMPSON: Another question?
 18 Go ahead, Beatrice.
 19 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: When you're
 20 discussing the native soil cover, you have this
 21 sentence: "A soil barrier would not provide
 22 adequate protection for ecological intrusion and
 23 long-term protection for long-lived radionuclides
 24 because it could erode."
 25 Are you describing the sorts of caps and

1 covers that we have been using on the site?
 2 MR. O'NEILL: No. This would be more
 3 like just straight soil with -- with a native
 4 vegetation, as opposed to a biotic barrier. For
 5 instance, the SL-1 cap has varied layers of
 6 graded granular material, the salt and rock and
 7 cobbles, and, on the top, riprap that is
 8 primarily there to keep humans out.
 9 That's an engineered barrier. That's a
 10 designed barrier, as opposed to just being
 11 covered with natural soil.
 12 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Okay. But a
 13 lot of the Records of Decision up to now have
 14 been, it has been my impression, more towards the
 15 soil-barrier end of the range, rather than what
 16 you describe as the SL-1 cap.
 17 MR. FRANK WEBBER: No. The SL-1 cap is
 18 considered an engineered barrier. It has
 19 multiple layers, just like some of the other
 20 barriers that are being built all over the
 21 country.
 22 When we say "native soil," it would be
 23 like putting ten foot of just conventional soil
 24 over the top of it, where you would still have
 25 exposure to wind, you'd still have possibility of

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1 ants, burrowing animals, bringing up
 2 contamination through that barrier.
 3 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Okay. My
 4 question, though, is: At other WAGs where you
 5 have decided to use a cap and cover native
 6 vegetation, my impression has been that it is
 7 closer to the pile of dirt you described than to
 8 the engineered barrier present at SL-1.
 9 MR. FRANK WEBBER: Well, there are
 10 several types of engineered barrier, one of which
 11 would be where you may have multiple layers, and
 12 you would put rock on top, which is what we did
 13 at SL-1.
 14 Another type of engineered barrier,
 15 though, would consist of maybe these same layers
 16 of gravel and something to prohibit intrusion
 17 into it. But, for whatever purpose, for whatever
 18 design purpose, you might decide that you want a
 19 vegetative cover over the top of it. So, you
 20 would still have several multiple layers for an
 21 intrusion barrier, but the top layer would
 22 support vegetation.
 23 MR. RENO: And I think -- if I can
 24 elaborate on it just a little bit, Frank.
 25 I think, Beatrice, the section you're

1 referring to are the CFA landfills and probably
2 the NRF landfills.

3 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Okay. Yeah.

4 MR. RENO: And the caps there were
5 driven more -- there were a different set of
6 contaminants and conditions with the life of the
7 nuclides that were assumed to be present there.

8 And the -- for instance, with the CFA
9 landfills, it was a municipal- or industrial-
10 garbage-dump type of situation. And those types
11 of covers are prescriptive in the landfill
12 closure ARARs or requirements. And I believe
13 that's also the case at NRF.

14 So, it may be that the site-specific
15 conditions there -- although I'm not intimately
16 familiar of all the details at those two caps --
17 was the factor during the consideration for
18 utilizing those types of covers. It is a best
19 management practice, if nothing else, for
20 landfill closure.

21 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: So, we're
22 assuming when it is closer to the pile of dirt
23 than to an engineered barrier that those piles of
24 dirt will erode away and we know how long it will
25 take?

1 MR. RENO: That's -- that's correct.

2 That went into their design factors.

3 MR. O'NEILL: Now, what's germane, of
4 course, to that is what is the contaminant and
5 how long does it need to be protected.

6 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: You say if
7 you -- you have so many alternatives in here.

8 MR. O'NEILL: Yeah.

9 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Alternative 5a
10 and Alternative 3b. You say institutional
11 controls beyond 100 years would be required for
12 contamination remaining at WAG 5.

13 So, that's the material you're taking to
14 the soil dump; right?

15 MR. RENO: Right.

16 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: How long are
17 the institutional controls going to be in place
18 at the soil dump?

19 MR. RENO: Well, it would be a minimum
20 of 100 years.

21 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Okay. But
22 we --

23 MR. RENO: And the --

24 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: We need it
25 longer than that. How much longer and will they

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1 be there?

2 MR. RENO: Well, the goal will be
3 that -- that those controls are in place in
4 perpetuity. But for someone to say what is going
5 to happen 100 years from now is very difficult,
6 which is why we'll have to design the cover at --
7 at the proposed soil repository to be protective
8 against an intrusion in the future.

9 First is at the -- which is what we did
10 at the SL-1 burial ground, and that consisted of
11 a ripped layer over the top of the waste,
12 layers to inhibit biological intrusion. And then
13 we've got the -- the tombstone out there that
14 says, here lies SL-1, don't build your house
15 here. And it would be a similar type of thing
16 that we would be proposing to do with the ICDF or
17 some other repository.

18 But it would be a design factor to
19 ensure that beyond 100 years that it would remain
20 protective in some fashion.

21 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Unless we
22 have an earthquake and the whole damn thing falls
23 down.

24 MR. RENO: Well, that's also another
25 design factor we will have to consider.

1 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: Also another factor
2 is where to put such a facility.

3 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: We are on
4 a nice fault up here.

5 MR. SIMPSON: Go ahead, Beatrice.

6 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: If a facility
7 like Envirocare -- if that corporation goes
8 under, who assumes the liability for the waste
9 that's been disposed of there?

10 MR. RENO: Boy, I -- I don't know a
11 definitive answer to that. And without having
12 that, I probably ought not to speculate. But I
13 think that there are some provisions in their
14 licensing agreement with the State of Utah
15 that -- that have provisions under which the
16 State might have some involvement down the road.

17 MR. FRANK WEBBER: The State is an equal
18 party to Envirocare, so you would assume that
19 they would share or have some of that liability.
20 How much of it they decide to shirk, who knows.

21 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Did you say
22 shirk or share?

23 MR. FRANK WEBBER: Whichever the case
24 might be.

25 MR. DAVE CARLSON: I can't speak

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1 directly to Envirocare, because I haven't looked
2 at it. But Utah's an agreement state, which
3 means that they assume, for the NRC, the NRC
4 rules. So, the State of Utah licensed
5 Envirocare.

6 The way those things are set up in every
7 other case that I'm aware of is there's money set
8 aside during the operation of the facility. When
9 the facility's through with operations and the
10 closure is completed, then the State will assume
11 honoring that facility using the funds that have
12 been set aside for the period when Envirocare
13 leaves the site.

14 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: And there's no
15 scheduled provision presumably for our soil
16 because it's on a DOE site?

17 MR. DAVE CARLSON: Right. It's federal
18 government, so you don't have --

19 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Right.

20 MR. SIMPSON: Okay. Question.

21 MR. TED CARPENTER: Well, I was simply
22 going to say, my understanding is, that that area
23 is one of the most a-seismic areas in the world.
24 There is really less earthquake activity out
25 there on that than in any other place in the

1 world. Isn't that true, in terms of earthquake?

2 MR. O'NEILL: You're talking the
3 Envirocare site? You're talking about --

4 MR. TED CARPENTER: No. I'm talking
5 about out here, out here where the INEL is.

6 MR. O'NEILL: I'm not a seismologist,
7 but there is seismic activity. People have
8 talked about the dampening effect of the aquifer,
9 but I'm sure that's probably controversial.

10 To divulge ourselves of responsibility
11 for designing with seismic concerns, yeah,
12 that -- there are standards, DOE standards, for
13 seismic activity, and we have to build to those,
14 as well.

15 MR. TED CARPENTER: Right. However, in
16 terms of ever having an earthquake out there, it
17 is not something that has been historically
18 identified.

19 MR. RENO: I think you're right, Ted.
20 But we need to be careful about what we say by
21 "out there." Because along the edge of the
22 Little Lost Range, there are active faults
23 there.

24 And I'm not a seismologist either. It's
25 my understanding that faults as recent as 15,000

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1 years ago on a 7.2 or greater -- and that, on the
2 plain itself, over the fracture of the basalts,
3 there are no identified fault lines as it goes
4 through the basalts on the plain, because it does
5 have a dampening effect.

6 But we've got references for that,
7 Beverly, we can get for you if you want to see
8 them.

9 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: Yeah. There were
10 some very substantial studies performed -- we've
11 done some very substantial seismic studies at the
12 INEL in order to satisfy the requirements for
13 considering the wind tunnel experiments that you
14 may have heard about for the housing project,
15 effects of wind on housing that -- as part of a
16 national program.

17 We have a probability map for seismic
18 events across the INEL. And the bottom line is,
19 the probabilities are very, very low.

20 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right.
21 This used to be the Snake River Valley. Now,
22 it's the Snake River Chem Site Valley.

23 MR. SIMPSON: Go ahead, Beatrice.

24 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: I'm just going
25 to ask two more questions, I promise, because the

1 other ones are so obscure that it's too
2 embarrassing.

3 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: We won't be
4 embarrassed.

5 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: In situ
6 stabilization and encapsulation of the sanitary
7 waste system site. You say that contaminant
8 mobility would be reduced by more than 90 percent
9 when you're grouting these tanks.

10 MR. O'NEILL: Right.

11 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: There is a
12 proposal that the high-level waste tanks might be
13 grouted. Are they looking at somewhere
14 between -- perhaps up to 10 percent remaining
15 mobility in that instance?

16 MR. O'NEILL: We have an expert here,
17 but I'm not going to jump on his question. I
18 don't know the answer to that. I do know that
19 they're looking at completely cleaning those
20 tanks out as one option.

21 Is that correct, Scott?

22 But I am really not in a position to
23 discuss it.

24 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: But is there
25 some mobility remaining whenever you grout

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1 something like that?
 2 MR. O'NEILL: I would think so.
 3 MR. FRANK WEBBER: In our particular
 4 case, with this waste, you need to remember
 5 you're talking about six inches of dried sludge.
 6 It's basically manure at this point that you
 7 would take out. So, encapsulation would probably
 8 work okay at that particular site.
 9 Some of these other sites, I don't know
 10 that any of us in this room have enough
 11 information to adequately answer your question,
 12 but we could probably come up with the answer.
 13 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: If you do the
 14 ISV of the tank, you say that the volume would be
 15 reduced by half. Is that common with in situ
 16 vitrification? So, like if we -- if INEL tried
 17 in situ vitrification at Pit 9, Pit 9 would not
 18 be one acre but half an acre?
 19 MR. RENO: Well, you are taking
 20 something that has liquids, and it has void
 21 space, and melting it into a solid glass form.
 22 And that would be the volume reduction that you'd
 23 see. I don't know -- I don't know what the
 24 specific amount would -- would be.
 25 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: But here at

1 the -- in your situation, you are predicting a
 2 50 percent?
 3 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: That's correct.
 4 MR. O'NEILL: But the tank is largely
 5 empty. So, if you could imagine a 1,000-gallon
 6 tank --
 7 MS. JEAN HOLDREN: And that's surrounded
 8 by gravel, which has a lot of air spaces.
 9 MR. FRANK WEBBER: And has a significant
 10 amount of water in the tank, as opposed to the
 11 sludge. We're talking very little volume in the
 12 tank, and a good portion of that is in a liquid
 13 form that, you know, would readily be vaporized.
 14 MR. SIMPSON: Any more questions?
 15 MR. O'NEILL: Talk obscurely.
 16 MR. SIMPSON: Let's take about a
 17 five-minute break, and then we'll come back and
 18 have the comment session.
 19 (A recess was taken.)
 20 MR. SIMPSON: Okay. This is the portion
 21 of the meeting where the public comments and your
 22 comments are entered into the record. And so,
 23 please, when you comment, clearly speak your name
 24 and give your address. And, that way, we can
 25 send you a copy -- a copy of the Responsiveness

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1 Summary, which is part of the Record of Decision,
 2 which you'll also receive.
 3 So, who would like to start out? I'm
 4 going to use the microphone, too, to help out our
 5 court reporter.
 6 Beatrice?
 7 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: You have
 8 a nice smile.
 9 MR. SIMPSON: Oh, thank you.
 10 Beatrice?
 11 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: Sure.
 12 MR. SIMPSON: Well, your comments might
 13 bring out some others.
 14 MS. BEATRICE BRAILSFORD: My name is
 15 Beatrice Brailsford. And we, the Snake River
 16 Alliance, will certainly be submitting written
 17 comments.
 18 I guess our fundamental concern remains,
 19 how does this fit together with the other cleanup
 20 actions? And I think that, you know, the notion
 21 that some caps won't last as long as other caps,
 22 I think, is something that we need to keep
 23 examining.
 24 I would like to note that this might be
 25 the first cleanup plan that we've seen INEL say

1 that it's cheaper to clean it up than continue to
 2 monitor it until the end of time. And I think
 3 that that's probably a real good stride forward.
 4 But, again, I think there's just some --
 5 you know, in this plan, we have to remove the
 6 tanks so that we can clean up the soil.
 7 And, in WAG 3, I asked specifically,
 8 don't you have to remove the tanks to clean up
 9 the soil? And the answer was no.
 10 And then I think -- just a specific
 11 comment to this plan, and it's the same comment
 12 that we made to the WAG 3 plan. There's got to
 13 be a fair amount of public involvement when we're
 14 developing the Waste Acceptance Criteria for the
 15 soil dump. Because I know a lot of folks are
 16 edgy about that to begin with. And they're not
 17 going to get more relaxed if they don't know how
 18 we're going to decide what to put in it.
 19 MR. SIMPSON: Thanks, Beatrice.
 20 Anyone else?
 21 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: I'll second her
 22 comment.
 23 MR. SIMPSON: Okay. Comment is
 24 seconded.
 25 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: But really, with

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1 this, I love the way that all of you gentlemen
2 are so knowledgeable and how it does come into
3 when you are presenting it to the so-called
4 people.

5 We always go 100 years down the road.
6 It would be real nice if -- when you boys do get
7 together and have this, what is going on today?
8 That's what it is. Because INEL will take care
9 of this and that, and everything is great in 100
10 years. Today is the day. Are you going to be
11 here in 100 years?

12 MR. SIMPSON: I hope not.

13 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: Gee, that's a sad
14 statement. Because you just said that we are
15 going to have this. But that's all right. We
16 don't need to worry about growing anything out
17 there because we're going to put houses out
18 there. Thank you, Dear.

19 MR. SIMPSON: Can I have your name, for
20 the record?

21 MS. BEVERLY CARLYLE: Beverly Carlyle.

22 MR. SIMPSON: Beverly Carlyle. Okay.
23 Thank you.

24 Anyone else?

25 MR. TED CARPENTER: I'm Ted Carpenter,

1 representing the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes,
2 306 Pima Drive, Fort Hall.

3 To the Shoshone-Bannocks, the animals
4 and plants out there, the native species, are
5 part of the tribal heritage. As you know, I
6 really don't see that need for that 48 -- 58
7 acres to have all of the native ecosystem be
8 removed.

9 Also, of course, I want to remind you
10 that you're not really disposing of anything.
11 You're storing it. And -- and I do hope that if
12 it ever reverts from DOE possession that it is
13 returned to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes to be
14 preserved as an ecological preserve, an
15 environmental preserve.

16 MR. SIMPSON: Okay. Thank you.

17 Anyone else?

18 Okay. With that, I just wanted to
19 remind people that the comment period remains
20 open until June 9 on this project. The next
21 project that we will be having public involvement
22 on will be the Central Facilities Area, some
23 soils at the Central Facilities Area. And a
24 proposed plan will be released sometime in
25 summer, July or August.

*** Notes ***

1 And, with that, thanks for coming and
2 good night.

3 (The hearing was concluded at 8:27 p.m.)

4 *****

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2

3 STATE OF IDAHO)

4) ss.

5 County of Bonneville)

6

7 I, KIMBERLY CARPENTER, CSR, a Notary

8 Public in and for the State of Idaho, do hereby

9 certify:

10

11 That said hearing was taken down by me

12 in shorthand at the time and place therein named

13 and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my

14 direction and control.

15

16

17 WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL this the 20th

18 day of May, 1999.

19

20

21

22 (Signature)

23 Kimberly Carpenter, CSR,

24 Notary Public in and for

25 the State of Idaho, residing

in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

(Seal) My Commission expires: Perpetual.

*** Notes ***

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